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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

BRAZIL.

Report from Bahia—Mortuary statistics.

Consul Furniss reports February 1, as follows: During the week ended January 30, 1904, 61 bodies were interred in the Bahia cemeteries.

Causes of death: Aneurism, 2; arterio-sclerosis, 2; beriberi, 2; bronchitis, 1; cancer, 1; cirrhosis of liver, 1; diarrhea and enteritis, 7; erysipelas, 2; fibroma, 1; hepatitis, 1; intestinal parasites, 2; malarial fevers, 5; organic diseases of heart, 2; peritonitis, 1; pneumonia, 1; pulmonary tuberculosis, 9; stillborn, 5; senile debility, 1; syphilis, 1; tetanus neonatorum, 1; other causes, 13.

Report from Rio de Janeiro—Plague and smallpox—No deaths from yellow fever—Return of French yellow-fever commission.

Acting Assistant-Surgeon Stewart reports January 21, as follows:

During the week ended January 17, there were in all 317 deaths, of which number none were caused by yellow fever, although there were 3 cases of this disease reported during the week.

There were 3 deaths from plague, one occurring in the district of San Jose, another in the district of Lagoa, and the third in the plague hospital at Jurajuba—Hospital Paula Candido.

From variola there were 28 deaths reported, with a total report of 39 cases during the week.

At the close of the week there were 3 cases of yellow fever under treatment at the Hospital of São Sebastião, 81 cases of variola under treatment at the same hospital, and 27 cases of plague under treatment at the Hospital Paulo Candido, at Jurajuba.

This is the most favorable condition as regards these three diseases that has prevailed since my reporting for duty here.

The deaths from other infectious and contagious diseases were as follows:

From measles, 2 deaths; from scarlet fever, 2 deaths; from whooping cough and diphtheria, no deaths; from grippe, 5 deaths; from enteric fever, 1 death; from dysentery, 1 death; from beriberi, 7 deaths (a considerable increase); from leprosy, 1 death; from malarial fevers, 11 deaths; and from pulmonary tuberculosis 53 deaths.

The highest range of the thermometer, officially reported, during the week was 32.1° C., and the lowest was 22.6° C., with a daily average of 26.54° C.

Return of the French yellow-fever commission.

On January 18 the French yellow-fever commission arrived here by the Royal Mail Steamship *Thames*. The commission consists of two members, both of whom belonged to the former commission which

left here about ten months ago. The names of the commissioners are Doctor Simon, president, and Doctor Marchoux, member. They have gone to Petropolis to live, and I shall call upon them at an early date.

I have been informed from a fairly reliable source that they left here last year fully convinced of the truth of the assertion that yellow fever is capable of transmission by the mosquito alone, and that they have returned this year, not for any further information on this point, but for the purpose of finding out whether there can not be established some method of inoculation against or prophylactic medication based on inoculation theories in regard to yellow fever.

From a conversation I had to-day with the secretary of the American legation here, who had seen the members of the French yellow-fever commission yesterday, the commission stated, in reply to a question as to what danger, in their opinion, threatened this city from the public works of the port contracted for and the upturning of many tons of mud and filth from the bottom of the bay incident thereto, they placed themselves on record by replying that they saw no reason for an outbreak of yellow fever here on that account, provided that the employees were properly taken care of and that exposure to mosquitoes during the work was avoided as far as possible.

CHINA.

Report from Hongkong—Smallpox—Summary of plague for the year 1903—Examination of rats.

Passed Assistant Surgeon McMullen reports, January 13, as follows:

During the week ended January 9, 1904, seven vessels, with 552 officers and crew, were inspected and granted bills of health. There were also 184 passengers inspected—110 cabin and 74 steerage; 423 crew and 62 steerage passengers were bathed and their baggage was disinfected, 411 pieces. There were 25 aliens recommended for rejection because of loathsome or dangerous contagious disease.

No communicable diseases were reported for the period covered by this report, and 1 case of smallpox is the only one reported since December 7, when the last plague case occurred. There were 1,422 cases of plague reported as having occurred in the colony during the year 1903.

The rat return for the week was as follows: Two hundred and sixty-three rats (including 2 infected rats) were caught in Hongkong and 124 (including 5 infected) were caught in Kowloon.

CUBA.

Report from Cienfuegos.

Acting Assistant Surgeon McMahon reports, February 11, as follows: During the week ended February 6, 1904, bills of health were issued to 5 vessels going to ports in the United States, all in good sanitary condition and no sickness on board.

No quarantinable disease has appeared at this port during this week.

The sanitary condition of the city is fairly good.

The mortuary report for the first ten days of this month will be forwarded with my next report.